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Addendum

Programme questions

Proposed revision to the medium-term plan for the period 1998-2001

Programme 17. Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean

1. At its 17th meeting, on 15 June 1998, the Committee considered proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 1998-2001. It had before it proposals in respect of programme 17, Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean.

2. The representative of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean introduced programme 17 and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

3. The revisions proposed under the programme, regarding mainstreaming gender issues, were endorsed. It was stated that they were of great importance to the region and that they were consistent with the mandates from the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council.

4. Clarification was sought as to the reason for not submitting additional revisions to programme 17 and for not reviewing the legislative mandates in all subprogrammes. The Committee was informed that, regardless of the impact on regional economic growth of current events, such as the unfolding Asian crisis or the effect of the warming current of El Niño, the issues addressed by each of the subprogrammes remained unchanged, and that the specific implications of such events would be more practically referred to in the next

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programme budget proposal. The Committee was also informed that the Secretariat maintained an active database on legislative mandates, which was constantly updated to ensure its relevance to all subprogrammes.

Conclusions and recommendations

5. The Committee recommended approval of the proposed revisions to programme 17 of the medium-term plan, subject to the following modification:

The last sentence of paragraph 17.25 (c) *should read*

Inter-agency coordination on gender issues, in particular with the organs, bodies and agencies of the United Nations system that are active in the region, will be strengthened.